

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION REPORT**

**I. HEADING**

**Date:** October 8, 2003  
**From:** Kevin M. Matheis, On-Scene-Coordinator *Kevin M. Matheis*  
U.S. EPA Region II  
**To:** R. Salkie, EPA J. Rotola, EPA  
T. Johnson, 5202G M. Mears, 2CD  
M. Basile, 2CD-POB B. Deese, 2ERRD-RAB  
L. McDavid, 2ORC-NYCSF J. LaPadula, 2ERRD-NYRB  
R. Byrnes, 2OIG D. Dillon, 2CID  
T. Rivero, 2OPM-GCMB ERD-Washington (E-Mail)  
S. Ervolina, NYSDEC D. King, NYSDEC IX  
J. Golumbek, City of Buff. R. Stanton, City of Buffalo  
D. Sutton, City of Buffalo C. O'Conner, NYSDOH  
S. Soden, WRS I&E, Inc. Weston Solutions

**Subject:** Buffalo Weaving and Belting Co., City of Buffalo, NY -  
Fire damaged buildings containing drums of unknown materials and fire  
damaged materials, and suspected asbestos-wrapped piping beneath  
collapsed roofs and fire damaged debris. Other buildings contain drums,  
laboratory chemicals, asbestos, and electrical transformers

**POLREP NO:** Eight (8) [www.epaosc.net/buffaloweaving](http://www.epaosc.net/buffaloweaving)

**II. BACKGROUND**

**SITE/SPILL NO.:** 02TU  
**RESPONSE AUTHORITY:** CERCLA/SARA  
**NPL STATUS:** Non-NPL  
**CERCLIS ID:** NYD002111375  
**START DATE:** April 18, 2003  
**COMPLETION DATE:** N/A  
**VERBAL FUNDING:** April 18, 2003 by ERRD Division Director  
**ACTION MEMO (AM) STATUS:** Signed May 5, 2003  
**AM CEILING INCREASE STATUS:** Signed September 26, 2003

**III. RESPONSE INFORMATION**

**A. Situation** (See POLREP 1) [www.epaosc.net/buffaloweaving](http://www.epaosc.net/buffaloweaving)

**B. Actions Taken**

1. A media availability session was coordinated through EPA Niagara Falls PIO. This was held from 9:30am to 11:30am on 9/12. The media coverage was fair and accurate. The media was provided with a tour of the site cleanup in the fire damaged areas and given a project scope of the cleanup that needs to be completed.

2. Equipment liquidators are in the process of finalizing arrangements with creditors and the bankruptcy trustee for removal of equipment within the main site buildings. Included in the liquidation will be the equipment within Building 19, which is slated for demolition before the project is complete. Auction items have been tagged and inventoried by the auctioneer.
3. RST contractor has completed drum logs and inventory and forwarded compiled information to the OSC. These logs, created with Drum Trak software, will be utilized by ERRS during the drum removal phase.
4. Ceiling Increase Action Memorandum was approved by Division Director on September 26. Additional funds were obligated to the project and ERRS was remobilized to the site on September 29. Tasks to be completed as part of this action include drum and lab chemical removal, asbestos abatement in the boiler room and at areas within the buildings where asbestos has fell to floor, demolition of Building 19, removal of PCB electrical transformers and isolated PCB contaminated soil excavation, decontamination of TCE belt cleaner, and cleaning of USTs removed from the vault storage area on-site.
5. ERRS has consolidated the chemicals from the second and third-story of the site buildings. Since the elevators in the facility are not operative, these drums and containers were moved to the first-story storage area via telescopic boom forklift through access doors in the rear of the site buildings. Transfer of chemicals occurred without incident.
6. Site chemist is on-site and has begun sampling and field characterization of drums and containers at the site.
7. Representatives from the former employee union and pension benefits company were on-site to copy pension and personnel records to verify pension status and to investigate company pension information.
8. CSXT has agreed to extend the access agreement for EPA access to its railroad property until the end of 2003.
9. OSC met with NYSDEC representatives to discuss the NYSDEC assessment sampling request at the site. NYSDEC would like EPA to install five monitoring wells and approximately 20 geoprobe samples at various locations at the site. EPA has contacted ERT for support and the assessment has been set for the week of November 10. Concurrent to this effort, EPA has asked ORC to ensure the access to the site for this sampling is in place.

#### **C. Future Actions**

1. Asbestos abatement within the boiler room will begin during the week of October 20.

2. Excavation of the PCB soil contaminated area will begin during the week of October 20. RST will support EPA with confirmation sampling.
3. Coordination of the November 10 site assessment sampling with ERT is occurring.

**D. Key Issues**

None

**IV. COST INFORMATION: As of 10/09/03**

Site Ceiling as of 10/09/03			
	Total Ceiling	Costs to Date	Amount Remaining
WRS I&E	\$ 1,225,000	\$ 975,000	\$ 250,000
RST	\$ 206,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 96,000
Totals	\$ 1,431,000	\$ 1,085,000	\$ 346,000

An additional \$300,000 was obligated to the ERRS project on September 30, 2003. An additional \$100,000 was obligated to RST contractor on September 30, 2003.

The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data, which the OSC must rely upon, may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.